

Appl. No. : 10/721,434
Filed : November 25, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-23. (Cancelled)

Claim 24. (Currently amended) A kit for screening for colon cancer comprising:

an anti-COTA capture antibody bound to a solid support;

purified human COTA antigen; and

a vial containing a preservative solution for collection of a fecal sample.

wherein the preservative comprises ethanol and formalin at a concentration such that bacterial growth is retarded and extraneous fecal matter is precipitated while maintaining immunogenicity of glycoproteins in the fecal sample.

Claim 25. (Original) The kit of claim 24 wherein the solid support is an ELISA plate.

Claim 26. (Original) The kit of claim 24 wherein the solid support is a membrane filter.

Claim 27. (Cancelled)

Claim 28. (Original) The kit of claim 24 wherein the preservative comprises 25-45% ethanol with 0.025%-0.35% formalin.

Claim 29. (Original) The kit of claim 28 wherein the preservative comprises 40% ethanol with 0.25% formalin.

Claim 30. (Cancelled)